



Alphacap Release Notes Spring 2009

Alphacap software may not be copied, photocopied, reproduced, translated, or reduced to any electronic medium or machine-readable form, in whole or in part, without the express written permission of:

Tax Computer Systems Limited
Centurion House
London Road
Staines TW18 4AX

Tel: +44 (0) 1784 410369
Fax: +44 (0) 1784 410335

Email: support@taxcomputersystems.com
Web: www.taxcomputersystems.com

Spring 2009
Copyright © 1991–2009 Tax Computer Systems Limited
All rights reserved
Alphacap and Alphatax are trademarks of Tax Computer Systems Limited.

Contents

Introduction	4
Installation	4
Projects functionality	5
Accounts categorisation	7
Import mapping rules functionality	8
Expenditure deferred for allowances	9
Summarised postings for capital gains calculations.....	10
Other Dataset View changes.....	11
Miscellaneous tax changes.....	12

Introduction

Welcome to the Alphacap Spring 2009 edition. This is a major release with many enhancements including:

- **Projects functionality.** Alphacap has been enhanced to deal with the apportionment of project costs.
- **Accounts categorisation.** Alphacap can now track the accounting categorisation of expenditure to enhance the computation disclosure.
- **Import mapping rules functionality.** The ability to set up rules to automate the tax categorisation of data on import has been introduced.
- **Expenditure deferred for allowances.** Alphacap can now appropriately track and deal with expenditure deferred for capital allowances.
- **Summarised postings for capital gains calculations.** The option to summarise expenditure posted to Alphatax to generate a capital gains calculation has been introduced.

Installation

To update your existing version of Alphacap, insert the Installation CD and press the enter key at the prompts. This will overwrite previous versions of Alphacap. You must also update the Alphacap database using the Enterprise Manager before running Alphacap. If not, an error message will be displayed when you open Alphacap.

Templates

The installation will reinstall the standard Alphacap templates to ensure that you have the latest versions.

To allow you to retrieve your own versions of these templates, if applicable, the old templates are stored in a new folder called BACKUPKn (where n is a number incremented for each new installation). Note that this part of the process may take some time.

Folders called BACKUPJn created in the Autumn 2008 release are removed with this release.

To update the database, open Enterprise Manager and:

1. Double-click the **System Administration** item in the Contents tree.
2. Double-click the **Update Alphacap Database** item.
3. Connect to the database for SQL Server or Oracle as appropriate.

The **Database** drop-down list is a list of all the Alphacap databases on the selected server. The corresponding **Status** gives the version number of the database. For Spring 2009, the version number is 7. You **must** apply the upgrade if the Status shows a version number earlier than 7.

4. Choose **Upgrade Now** for Enterprise Manager to upgrade the database. (For further details refer the Enterprise Manager Administrator Guide which is located in the Manuals folder on the installation CD.)

Projects functionality

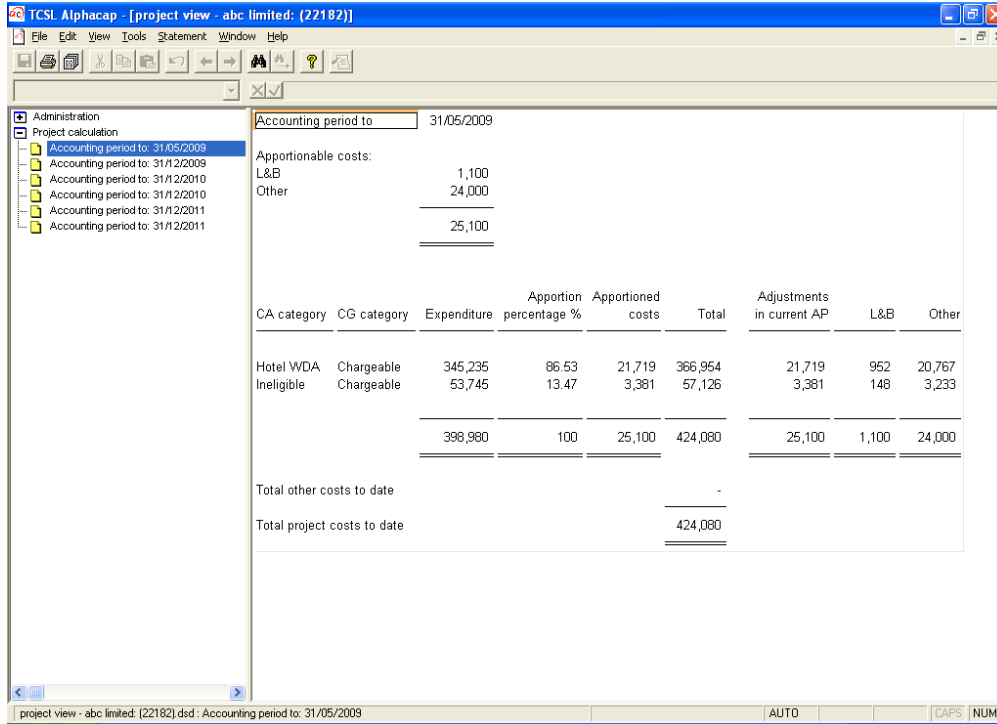
A significant new function to allow expenditure to be tracked within Capital Projects has been introduced to Alphacap. The new functionality can handle the tracking of major construction projects where thousands of individual expenditures can be incurred over a number of years.

A significant feature of the new functionality is the ability to deal with expenditure that is deemed to contribute to the whole development and which can therefore not be specifically categorised for tax purposes (apportionable costs). For example this may include fees for surveyors and solicitors. Alphacap will perform calculations to apportion these costs across the project as a whole, in proportion to the tax characteristics of the other expenditure. This apportionment will be updated and adjusted each accounting period where the Project spans more than one. In this way, Alphacap provides a sound and consistent methodology to ensure capital allowance claims for such expenditure are fair and accurate.

In detail, the functionality has been introduced in the following way:

- Expenditure entered via the batch input area can now be assigned a Project reference.
- New capital allowances and capital gains categories have been added to identify apportionable costs.
- When data is transferred from the batch area into the main database, Alphacap will automatically create a Project for each unique Asset reference/Project reference combination.

- As part of this process and where the Project includes some apportionable costs, apportionment calculations will be performed as described above to ensure the final data in the database is fully tax categorised. Note that it is possible to omit certain expenditure types from this apportionment calculation if necessary.
- Details of Projects and the associated Project calculations performed can be seen via a new Projects view in the Contents tree, as shown below:



Where a Project spans more than one accounting period, Alphacap will perform a revised calculation at the end of each period based on expenditure incurred to date. In this way, the capital allowance claims made for a Project in the computations will always be accurate in total, but without requiring previously submitted computations from being changed.

Accounts categorisation

Expenditure can now be categorised for accounting purposes as well as tax purposes. This information will then be used to post data into Alphatax so that the fixed assets note disclosed in Alphatax more closely reflects the Accounts.

The following specific changes have been made:

- New Accounts category fields have been introduced in the Expenditure input statements in both the Batch input area and the Working area.
- These input fields will contain a drop down list showing the accounts categories used in the Alphatax computation for that company (i.e. the column headers on the Tangible fixed assets reconciliation per accounts statement).
- When posting to Alphatax, additions, disposals and transfers will now be sent to the appropriate column on the Tangible fixed assets reconciliation per accounts statement rather than all to one default column as was previously the case. Separate analysis statement will also be created for each category of expenditure (see an example below).
- Any expenditure which has not been assigned with an Accounts category will continue to be sent to a default column, but this will now be headed up as 'Other'.

Accounts category	Land & buildings	Plant & machinery	Other	Total
Cost				
Brought forward	14,320,000	1,200,432		15,520,432
Adjustment				
	14,320,000	1,200,432		15,520,432
↓ Additions	2,407,593	374,009	12,320	2,793,912
↳ Transfers in				
↳ Inter-divisional transfers in				
↳ Disposals	184,000	87,931		271,931
↳ Transfers out				
↳ Inter-divisional transfers out				
Carried forward	16,543,593	1,486,510	12,320	18,042,413
Depreciation				
Brought forward				
Adjustment				
Change in the year				
↳ Transfers in				
↳ Inter-divisional transfers in				
↳ Disposals				
↳ Transfers out				
↳ Inter-divisional transfers out				
Carried forward				

Import mapping rules functionality

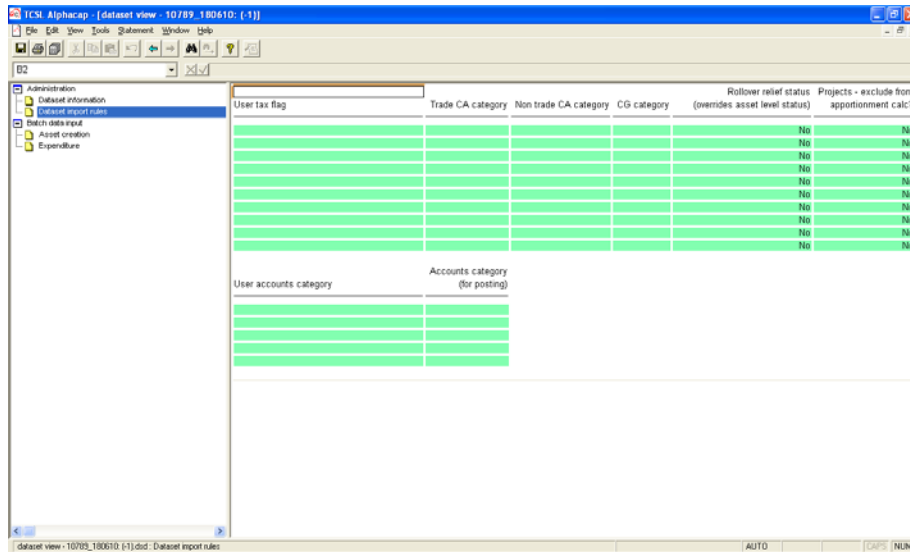
Expenditure data downloaded from external systems may already have some tax flags which could be of use within Alphacap. Where this is the case, it is now possible to map this information into Alphacap by setting up user definable rules. These will then be applied on importing a csv data file. This new functionality should considerably assist the transfer of data from existing systems into Alphacap.

For example, an external tax flag of 'LAND' could be mapped into Alphacap as follows:

- CA category – Ineligible
- CG category – Chargeable
- Qualifying for rollover relief – Yes

Import rules can be set up from within the Dataset view area. Once saved for a particular company, these rules will automatically be available within any newly created Datasets for that company.

As part of Alphacap’s internal validation checks, any external tax flags present in a particular data file which have not been previously used will be identified on import. The user will be required to map these appropriately before the dataset can be saved.



Expenditure deferred for allowances

Alphacap can now correctly identify and deal with expenditure which is purchased in one period but which qualifies for capital allowances in a future period.

There are two ways that expenditure may be identified as deferred:

- A new Yes/No input allows expenditure to be flagged as such. The use of this flag will ensure that expenditure is treated as indefinitely deferred for allowances in the year of purchase.
- A capital allowance expenditure date can be entered. Alphacap will compare this to the Accounting expenditure date and automatically work out if the expenditure is deferred and into which period.

This information is then used on posting data to Alphatax to ensure the correct capital allowance claims are made in the correct periods. Alphacap makes use of the new Deferred expenditure statement in Alphatax to keep track of deferred expenditure in the computation (see page 33 of the Alphatax release notes for details).

	Expenditure b/f	Adjustment	Addition	Expenditure on which CAAs claimed	Expenditure c/f	Main pool WDAs	Hotel WDA
Deferred expenditure							
Plant & Machinery - WDA	15,000		5,000	8,000	12,000	8,000	
Hotel - Staines	17,838			17,838			17,838
Hotel - London Bridge	2,000				2,000		
	34,838	nil	5,000	25,838	14,000	8,000	17,838

Summarised postings for capital gains calculations

Following user requests, a new option to summarise the expenditure details posted to Alphacap for capital disposal calculations is now available.

By default, every single line of expenditure is posted to Alphatax to re-create the capital disposal calculated in Alphacap. On selection of the new option, expenditure will be automatically summarised by month when transferred to Alphatax. This level of summarisation should provide neater capital disposal reports in Alphatax without the loss of the level of detail required to accurately calculate indexation allowances.

This posting option can be set as the default Alphacap method via a new **PostSummaryCG=1** setting in the [CASYSTEM] section of the tcsbase.ini file:

It is possible to override the default position for any particular company via the Posting configuration options in the Working area.

Other Dataset View changes

Batch data input - Expenditure Input statement

- A new **CAIgnoreNewAssetFlag** setting in the tcsbase.ini file enables Alphacap to automatically identify the use of new asset references in the Expenditure Input statement (while in Dataset View) without the need for users to flag the **New asset?** column as **Yes**. Alphacap uses the newly created **Asset description (for new assets)** field as the name for the new asset.
- The Invoice reference and Invoice description fields are no longer mandatory.
- Default trade details no longer need to be added. Alphacap now automatically sets the default trade for expenditure to be the main trade in Alphatax. This default can be changed via a drop down box, or this can be changed for individual items.
- A new **Accounts category (for posting)** field is now available to record the accounts category to be used when posting to Alphatax (e.g. Land & Buildings, Plant & machinery etc). See page 7 for further details.
- New **Project reference** and **Project description** fields are available to assign expenditure to a specific project. A new Alphacap Project (see page 5) is created automatically for any unique **Asset reference/Project reference** combination.
- Alphacap can now handle amounts with up to two decimal places in the Cost field. Previously, Alphacap accepted the nearest whole number.
- A new **CGOverrideFixedDate=dd/mm** setting in the tcsbase.ini file allows the date of expenditure for capital gains purposes to be set as one fixed date in an accounting period. For example, if the ini setting is 14/12 then for expenditure incurred in an accounting period ending 31 December 2007, the CG date will be set to 14 December 2007.
- Three extra columns have been included to hold additional user definable information.

Importing CSV files

- See page 8 for details of a new Dataset import rules Input statement in the Administration section of the Contents tree.
- The Import mapping process has also been enhanced to include the new fields as described above.

Document Manager

Document Manager has been enabled in the Dataset View area

Miscellaneous tax changes

- Following Finance Act 2009, 40% FYA capital allowance categories have been reintroduced for Plant and machinery, short life assets and special leasing expenditure incurred after 31/3/2009 and before 1/4/2010.
- Following Finance Act 2008, Alphacap can now correctly deal with disposals of long life expenditure which transferred into the Special rate pool in an accounting period beginning on or after 1 April 2008.
- Alphacap can now deal with expenditure qualifying for land remediation relief.